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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

PARTICLES AND METHOD FOR

FLAKE-LIKE α-ALUMINA

PRODUCING THE SAME

Sir:

For:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated April 22, 2002, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I - Claims 1-3, 6-10, drawn to flake-like alpha alumina particles and compositions thereof, classified in class 424, subclass 682; and

Group II - Claims 4-5, drawn to a method of making particles, classified in class 556, subclass 170.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, Claims 1-3, 6-10, drawn to flake-like alpha alumina particles and compositions thereof without traverse.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 10, 2002

Barry-D. Biddle Reg. No. 44,033

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

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